

# CONCORDIA'S THURSDAY REPORT

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## Techniques give kids a role in their own education

**Ellen Jacobs and Nina Howe receive \$591,000 grant to study learning**

BY JASON GONDZIOLA

Learning is not the result of development; learning is development. So goes the credo of the constructivist school of educational thought, which will serve as the basis for a new cross-country study being conducted by two Concordia professors.

"There's a difference between learning and being taught," said Ellen Jacobs, chair of the Education Department and professor of Early Childhood and Elementary Education. "Some people say that's the difference between constructivist and instructivist education."

The multi-part research project, which was recently awarded a \$591,000 grant from Human Resources Development Canada, is being conducted by Jacobs, who is the principal investigator, and Nina Howe, professor of Education and associate dean of Graduate Studies for Student Affairs. It will focus specifically on early childhood educational regimes through the lens of constructivism, which Howe explained as a personalized and responsive approach to teaching, as opposed to the uniform instructive approaches of traditional education.

"It's a very, very challenging way to teach," said Howe. "It requires being on your toes every minute of the day. It's not a prescriptive approach to teaching, it's a constructive way in the sense that you're listening to the children and building on their interests—you're helping them construct their

knowledge of the world."

The first portion of the research will be a study of the regulations across Canada for educator training, and will look at content and time requirements for curriculum instruction. Following this analysis, Jacobs and Howe will move on to how the teachers operate in a classroom setting.

"We are going to Manitoba, Quebec and Nova Scotia—these are places that we know have different regulations from one another—and we are going to go into the daycare centres and we're going to examine what they're doing," said Jacobs. "We're going to look at the activities that are provided for the children."

The final stage of the research will be to amalgamate the findings from the first two parts and combine it with elements of constructivist philosophy. The end result will be a program that will engage educators and show them how implement constructivist techniques in the classroom.

"We are going to develop a program that is constructivist in approach," said Jacobs. "We plan to engage the educators and show them how to create a constructivist environment in which they, along with the children, construct the children's knowledge."

Jacobs explained that she was motivated to carry out the research because of findings in her studies of early child-



Ellen Jacobs and Nina Howe were recently awarded a \$591,000 grant to research early childhood educational regulations across Canada and how teachers operate in the classroom.

hood environments.

"I've looked at hundreds of daycare environments and I've been very disappointed with the kinds of activities that we have seen in these environments," she said, adding that the children she observed lacked engaging work to stimulate them into extending their pre-existing learning. "You have to listen to how they reason things through. Just presenting them with concepts and saying 'do it like this' it

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## Concordia builds ties with Chinese university, community

BY FRANK KUIN

Concordia has been host to Dr. Ke Qin Zhang, vice-president of Yunnan University in Southwestern China, for the past two weeks as part of a unique exchange program in which university administrators from China and Canada are teamed up.

Zhang has met with senior administrators at Concordia to learn about the university's academic organization. He has also sat down with the deans of all faculties to identify potential areas of research collaboration between the two institutions.

His counterpart at Concordia, Provost Jack Lightstone, is about to travel to China for a reciprocal visit to Yunnan and an opportunity to "learn more about the context in which Yunnan University operates."

Along with colleagues from seven other Canadian universities, Lightstone was matched up with a vice-president from one of eight up-and-coming universities in China. The program was initiated by the Association of



Dr. Ke Qin Zhang and Balbir Sahni

Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the Chinese Ministry of Higher Education.

"In a sense, twinning with Dr. Zhang of Yunnan University is a blind date," Lightstone said, noting that the organizers of the mentoring program matched up the participants from both countries.

Concordia was paired with Yunnan University because the institutions are comparable. Like Concordia, Yunnan is a comprehensive university with strengths in areas such as engineering and science. With about 30,000 students, it is similar in size.

Though Canada has had exchanges with a number of high-profile institutions in China for more than 25 years, the mentoring program offers an opportunity to establish contacts with universities that are somewhat more "off the beaten track for western universities," Lightstone said.

"The program that brought Dr. Zhang here and that will

bring me to China is meant for a broader spectrum of universities, particularly those in regions more distant from Beijing, to be able to have contact with their counterparts out here and vice versa," he said.

Zhang welcomed the chance to familiarize himself with Concordia. "It is a very useful opportunity for me to understand in detail how the university is organized," he said. "I will bring these experiences back, and it will help us improve the way we organize our university."

In addition, contacts between the two institutions will encourage Yunnan to "open the doors and send some students to other countries to learn," he said. "This international exchange program is very important for us."

In terms of academic collaboration, Zhang singled out microbiology as a potential area of joint research. As it happens, both universities have strengths in plant genomics. Zhang, a microbiologist by training, toured the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex last week.

For Concordia, the importance of China as an exchange partner is illustrated by the fact that of all international students here, more than one-fifth are Chinese.

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# Harvard academic debunks outdated theories

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

The academic as rock star: The crowd to hear Steven Pinker speak overflowed the 570-seat Oscar Peterson Concert Hall last Thursday, spilling into the lobby of the Vanier Library, where a monitor showing his lecture had been set up.

Pinker, Harvard Psychology professor and cognitive scientist (formerly of MIT), best selling author and former Montrealer (a graduate of McGill), re-capped much of his career as a debunker of cherished but outdated scientific and pseudo-scientific theories of human nature and the workings of the human mind.

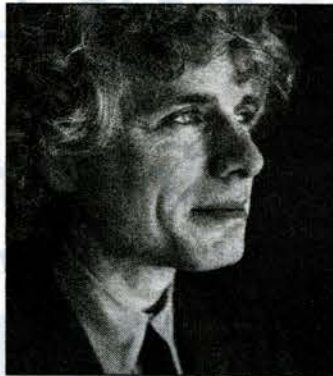
One of the linchpins of his arguments is the research on identical twins.

"Numerous studies have shown that adopted children who are raised together are not similar at all – much less similar than identical twins raised apart."

This research consistently shows that genetics are a much greater influence than environment (nature rather than nurture) on a child's development and character.

The findings on identical twins are a serious challenge to the Blank Slate theory, which states that the mind has no innate traits. That theory is the target of Pinker's book *The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature*, which has garnered critical accolades and numerous awards since its release last year.

Pinker contends that the theory has proven to be not only inaccurate but dangerous, a favorite of social engineering style tyrants, who wanted to reshape their society in some arbitrary, idealized image. The danger is that the



STEVEN PINKER

blank slate theory implies that humans are perfectible, if the right things are "written" on the slate.

"The temptation for leaders is to think that if people are blank slates, they damn well better control what gets written on those slates. Indeed, some of the worst totalitarian despots of the 20th century explicitly embraced the blank slate theory, including Mao Zedong, who said 'a blank page is where the most beautiful poems are written.' The Khmer Rouge, who murdered a quarter of their country, had a slogan: 'only the new born baby is spotless.'"

By contrast, democracy, which has clearly led to a more benevolent outcome, is based on a rather jaundiced theory of human nature, captured in a quote from Father of the U.S. Constitution James Madison: "If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, no controls on government would be necessary."

Idealization also infects the Noble Savage view of human nature, which states that people are born pure and good, but are then corrupted by society. Once again, scientific observation has punched holes in an antiquated theory. Pinker cites anthropological findings from the book *War Before Civilization* by Lawrence Keeley: 15-60% of male deaths are due to warfare in hunter-gatherer societies, while only 2-3% of male deaths are due to warfare in the U.S. and Europe in the 20th century, a figure that includes both world wars.

Pinker also challenges the Ghost in the Machine view of human nature, which says that each person has a soul that makes choices free from biology. Many of Pinker's foes in this intellectual battle are on the religious right, who oppose the growing belief among scientists that the purpose of life is to pass on our genes to the next generation.

"Why are we here? To pass on our genes. Admittedly, that's not a very satisfying answer, to a large number of people. There is a fear of nihilism at work here. People on the religious side of this debate seem to believe that if we lose our belief in the soul, all hell will break loose, and we will see the total eclipse of all values."

But belief in the soul, a ghost in the machine, and in its continued existence after the death of the material body, "is not as benevolent a doctrine as it might appear, because it necessarily devalues life on earth. Think about why we sometimes remind ourselves of the cliché, 'life is short'. That is an impetus to renew a friendship, to use your time productively, not to squander it. I think one can argue that nothing gives life more meaning than the realization that every moment of consciousness is a precious gift."

In addition, "God's purpose always seems to be conveyed by human beings. I think that belief opens the door to a certain amount of mischief," Pinker pointedly understated, before referring to the September 11 suicide attacks as an extreme example.

Pinker concluded by pointing out that the scientific findings he references have come from diverse disciplines, which have converged to undermine the theories he is attacking.

"In human history, the Blank Slate, Noble Savage and Ghost in the Machine have been the dominant theories of human nature in modern intellectual life. These doctrines have been challenged by the modern sciences of mind, brain, genes, and evolution. These challenges have been seen, by opponents on both the left and the right, as a threat to moral values, but, in fact, that doesn't follow. On the contrary, a better understanding of what makes us tick can clarify those values. It can show that political equality does not require sameness, but rather policies that treat people as individuals with rights."

Pinker is also the author of the books *The Language Instinct* and *How the Mind Works*.

## Arab students learn about Jewish culture in Hebrew class

BY SARAH BINDER

It may not be what Dr. Menachem Rotstein has in mind when he talks about positive long-term effect of Arab students taking his Hebrew class, but for one student the benefit was immediate and concrete.

Samer Stiban, a Palestinian Catholic who took Rotstein's introductory Hebrew last winter, used his skill with the language to deal more effectively with Israeli soldiers at checkpoints on a recent visit back to his home just outside Jerusalem.

"Sometimes they don't want to speak English or Arabic, even though they know how to, so I got to use my Hebrew," said Stiban.

The 19-year-old film student was one of a small but steady number of Arab or Muslim students who have signed up for Rotstein's class in recent years. The class has about 30 students, mostly Jews, four to six Arabs or Muslims and a sprinkling of Christians.

The fact that Arabs are among his students "only became a significant issue a year ago because of the tensions on campus," Rotstein said, referring to confrontations between Concordia students on opposite sides of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

The presence of the Arab students in his class is "testimony to the fact that good will and love of scholarship can help overcome many obstacles," said Rotstein, who has taught Hebrew for 20 years at Concordia.

Using Israeli newspapers and Hebrew-language Web sites as educational tools, he aims "to get students to appreciate Jewish culture in Hebrew. Arab students who are curious about Israel, Israeli culture, Hebrew language, Jewish traditions – for some reasons they find this course. And they work very hard."

Rotstein's is not the only classroom at Concordia where Jews and Arabs learn about each other.

Hashem Fassih, a third-year finance student from Syria, took introductory Hebrew two years ago. Fassih is now taking a course taught by Dana Sajadi on the history of the Middle East way before the creation of Israel.

"I was surprised by the number of Jews taking it. They're interested in the pre-Islamic period, the caliphates and so on. It's great," Fassih said.

Last year, he chose an elective political science course on the Middle East and global conflict, where "there were some very heated debates" between Muslim and Jewish students.

That won't happen in Rotstein's beginner's Hebrew. "I completely avoid bringing those matters in because it's

irrelevant to the teaching," Rotstein said. The course is not geared to conversation but "if their goal is to be able to read a Hebrew newspaper, we can attain that."

Which is just fine with students like Stiban and Fassih. They would rather discuss Israeli music, anyways.

Fassih, 21, made two new Jewish friends in Rotstein's class but, as is the case for Stiban and most of his Jewish friends, they don't talk about the Israel-Palestine situation because that might jeopardize the friendship.

Stiban, who learned basic Hebrew on the street in Jerusalem, took Rotstein's class to improve his grammar and syntax. For Fassih, the reasons were multi-layered, including fascination with the language of prayer used by Jewish friends of the family.

Fassih, who has lived in several countries, said Rotstein's course showed him how alike Arabs and Israelis are, for example, when it comes to traffic chaos or in their fondness for proverbs.

"I thought we were the only people who had so many proverbs and then Mr. Rotstein would come up with two or three proverbs in Hebrew in every class that I would understand before he even explained what they were."

"My God, they're just like us!"

## Faculty of Arts and Science plans to rebuild Physics department

BY LAURIE ZACK

At its last council meeting on Oct. 17, the Faculty of Arts and Science adopted a plan to rebuild the Physics department. The plan, spearheaded by the dean and the chairs of all the Faculty's science departments, came out of an analysis of the weaknesses of the department. The rebuilding process will be led by the new department chair Mariana Frank.

The department has been the subject of much speculation over the last two years with media reports even claiming that the department was to close. The Dean was emphatic that this was never considered and that the

Council motion was guided by a desire to build a new Physics Department distinguished by its cutting-edge teaching and research:

Several deficiencies were found in the present level of teaching and research in Physics. On the research end, there is a lack of a critical mass of full-time professors engaged in peer-reviewed externally funded research and a subsequent lack of funding support for graduate students. In terms of teaching, both the undergraduate and graduate programs need to be overhauled and the pedagogy and equipment brought up to date. Added to this, the Council report underlined a lack of collegiality in the department and the need for renewal in a department having the high-

est average age in the Faculty and a high cost of operation.

The action plan adopted by Council calls for rebuilding the faculty ranks with an eye to cross-disciplinarity. As a transitional measure, new full-time faculty appointments will be joint appointments with other science departments and both hiring and curriculum renewal will be overseen by special cross-disciplinary science sub-committees. The suspension of admissions to both undergraduate and graduate physics programs, which has been in effect since the 2001-02 academic year, will be lifted once a revised curriculum has been approved and new professors to teach the curriculum are in place. The Council motion was approved with one vote against.



## Mudur's 3D World

# Professor sees shape of the world in his research

By JANICE HAMILTON

When Professor Sudhir Mudur joined Concordia's computer science department, he left behind the familiar world of Bombay, India, where he had studied and worked all his life. But he can still visit computerized models of the Taj Mahal and Fatehpur Sikri (a 16th century abandoned city near Delhi). Computational problems and issues related to large three-dimensional models such as these are his main research interest.

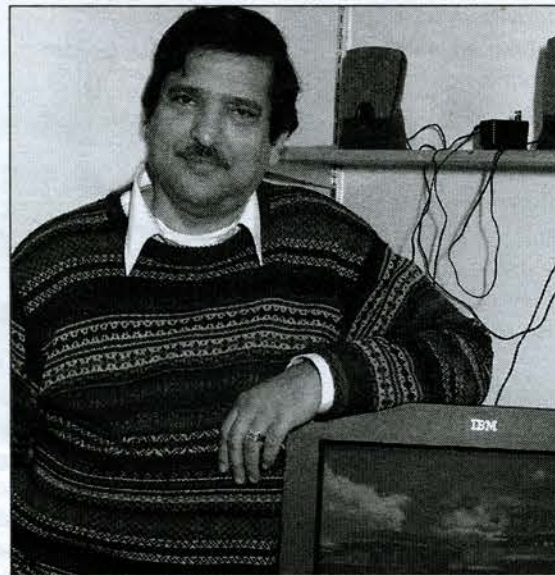
Three-dimensional computer models are becoming increasingly common in engineering, architecture, medical imaging, simulations, heritage site documentation, and the entertainment industry. But the amount of data involved may be huge, depending on the shape of the object. A 3D scanner reads the object's surface as small polygons – generally triangles – and hundreds of millions of polygons may be required.

Mudur is exploring ways of compressing files so this data can be shared on the Internet more easily. He does this by developing software that looks for shapes that repeat. Different methods are required to find repetitive features in engineered objects, such as buildings and helicopters, and in natural objects, which feature many tiny details. "My research has approached both of these techniques," he says.

Before coming to Concordia, Mudur was director of the National Centre for Software Technology in Bombay, India. He met several Concordia faculty members when they visited the institute. He did not want to spend the rest of his career in administration, so when he was invited to teach a summer course in Montreal, he accepted. "I liked Montreal and I felt Concordia would give me sufficient academic freedom to do what I wanted to do," he says. "And there was an opportunity to build up a new research group in my area of three-dimensional graphics." He and his wife and family moved here in January, 2002.

He has made a lot of progress since then, laying the groundwork for his research. With a start-up grant from the dean, he bought some graphics workstations, which he put in two rooms. He has also received NSERC operating and equipment grants. He has recently been given a larger room to house this equipment, and is in the process of ordering 3D scanners that are big enough to scan a person.

A proposal to the Canada Foundation for Innovation has also been approved. This grant will



SUDHIR MUDUR is working to compress 3D files so they can be shared online

allow Mudur and collaborators Thomas Fevens and Dhrubajyoti Goswami to purchase more equipment, which will be ordered as soon as more space is allotted. This state-of-the-art lab will use a cluster of 16 computers, working in parallel, to handle the data processing required for large, digitized worlds.

Mudur has lined up a total of four PhD and 12 masters-level students so far, some of whom are under joint supervision with other faculty members. He is collaborating with colleagues in the computer science department in a variety of projects in addition to the parallel computer cluster. For example, he plans to work with Nematollah Shiri and someone from Environment Canada, using visualization techniques to identify patterns in data from 30 years of weather observations. The goal is to predict short-range weather conditions, especially at airports, with greater accuracy.

In another project, he and Juergen Rilling intend to create a three-dimensional visualization of a very large software program. They want to find out whether this helps people who are not familiar with the program to understand it more easily.

He points out that the main theme underlying these and other collaborations is the visualization of large amounts of data in order to better understand the information and solve problems. "We have just initiated these projects, and do not have great results to report yet," Mudur says, but he is confident they are off to a good start.

## Continued: Concordia forges many ties with Yunnan

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Currently, 683 Chinese students are enrolled at Concordia, of a total of 3,200 international students.

"Over the years, Concordia has become very well exposed to the Chinese community," said Balbir Sahni, director of the university's Centre for International Academic Cooperation. "Relations between Concordia and Chinese universities have really matured."

For instance, a delegation of film animators is visiting the Faculty of Fine Arts, and recently an official from the Chinese embassy came to the university, Sahni said.

Such close contacts with China are important because of China's emerging profile as a leading international power, added Lightstone.

"Given that China is going to be increasingly a giant in many spheres in the world, having more intensive relations with China is of strategic importance to Canada and to Quebec."

Lightstone said he's anxious to go to Yunnan next

week, on his first visit to China. Drawing on his background in cultural anthropology, he observed that exchanges with China have an added attraction compared to those with universities in Europe and the Americas: "one learns most from exchanges with those who are more distant culturally from oneself."

The Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies at Concordia University invites you to attend a workshop presentation by

### Ambassador Stephanie Beck

Ambassador of Canada to the Kingdom of Cambodia  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

### "Cambodia Today: Elections, Accountability, and International Assistance"

Friday, Nov. 7, 2003 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.  
Room LB-608 The George Rudé Seminar Room  
1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

Concordia faculty, staff and alumni/a pop up in the media more often than you might think!

## names in the news

Are company directors paid enough? Dr. **Michel Magnan**, Lawrence Bloomberg Chair in Accountancy, says it is not easy to figure out what directors are worth. He is quoted in *The Globe and Mail* on how hard it is to put a measurement on what a director does and that a leaner pay packet might better ensure good governance. His concern is with the professional directors who make a living from being on boards and if they're too well paid, they may get too comfortable.

Apropos of current scandals, **Jean McGuire** (Management) talked in *The Gazette* last month about the tough decisions corporations face regarding what is a legitimate business expense and what is excessive.

The latest film by alumnus **Gary Burns** (Cinema) is playing now in Montreal. *The Gazette's* Brendan Kelly says *A Problem With Fear* is set in an unnamed city, but observant viewers here will note that the subway system, which figures prominently, is the Montreal métro. Kelly calls Burns "one of Canada's best-known directors." His previous film, *waydowntown*, also deals with urban paranoia. It's a delightfully quirky film about a bunch of bored 20-somethings working and living in Calgary's skyscrapers. They compete to see who can go longest without putting his or her nose outdoors.

A *Gazette* article by student **Julia Gerke** (Journalism) discussed the lack of outward pride of Germans on their national day, Oct. 3. Hitler's legacy and the Holocaust cast a dark mood over the German people and how they see themselves. Gerke, born years after the Holocaust, says the German guilt hangs over them, even on their national day.

Concordia graduate and philanthropist **Richard J. Renaud** (BComm) was featured as the personality of the week in *La Presse* last month. The article profiles Renaud, whose name adorns the new Science Complex on the Loyola campus.

**Guido Molinari** (Fine Arts), who taught for many years at Concordia, was featured in *La Presse* this month after receiving an Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching.

In an article discussing work conditions for teachers in *Le Devoir* **Maria Peluso**, president of the Concordia University Part-time Faculty Association told the paper that working conditions surrounding part-time faculty are still difficult. They have no office, no telephone, no computer or even e-mail, she said.

Alumna **Jodi van Rees** (Exercise Science) is now living her NHL dream as assistant athletic therapist with the Canadiens. Van Rees was profiled in *The Gazette* this month as the first woman in NHL history with a full-time medical team position. Landing an NHL job was a dream come true for alumna **Sonya Goel** (BComm and DSA). She was featured in *The Gazette* as project coordinator for the National Hockey League. Goel credits her internship with the Diploma in Sports Administration for helping her grab her great gig.

Concordia students who won Forces avenir awards have been popping up in Montreal newspapers for their work. They were featured in the Oct. 11 issue of *La Presse* and in Peggy Curran's *Gazette* column on Oct. 7.

Professor **William Bukowski** (Psychology), who has studied social development in boys and girls for more than two decades, says that expectations for women's behavior have changed profoundly in the last 50 years. In a *Gazette* column on 21st century girl behavior, Bukowski says that women have become free to make choices about their sex roles and their professional development.

Researcher **Adam Radomsky** (Psychology) was featured in a *Gazette* article about obsessive-compulsive disorders. Radomsky says that family members of those suffering from the disorder are often unknowingly drawn into the problem, too.

Professor **Jordan LeBel** (Marketing) was interviewed on CBC's *Canada Now* about Point Zero, Quebec's first gated-community housing project in Blainville, Quebec.

**Karim Boulos**, the new business director of the John Molson School of Business Executive Centre, was featured in the *Gazette's* business pages this week in an article about procrastinating. Boulos has developed a system of prioritizing tasks that works for him. He's proof of his own success: CTR put him on the front page June 6, 2002 issue, when he became the first recipient of the \$10,000 award given to the top Montreal MBA graduate of the year.

**Les Lawton** says he'd much rather coach women than men. The celebrated hockey coach, now in his 22nd year with the award-winning Stingers women, told *The Gazette's* Susan Schwartz on Nov. 3, that with women hockey players, success depends on skill rather than physical intimidation. Women also put more emphasis on sportsmanship and mutual support. Shaming a player in front of the rest of team may work with the guys, he said, but not with his players.



# Multicaf satisfies hunger and need in Cote-des-Neiges

BY TRISTAN BAURICK

Multicaf is one of Cote-des-Neiges' most popular eateries, drawing nearly 200 hungry diners a day and boasting a customer return rate any restaurateur would love.

But if Alain Landry, who runs Multicaf, had his wish, all his customers would have their hunger satisfied at home over bounteous meals with friends and family.

With more than half of Cote-des-Neiges' residents below the poverty line, Landry knows his wish will have to wait. Multicaf's volunteers will continue serving up \$1 meals in the meantime.

"Providing food is our mission," Landry said. "Nutrition is essential for quality of life and for a better neighbourhood."

Multicaf was established in 1986 to meet the needs of a community where almost 10 per cent of the population lacks adequate nutrition. Many of Cote-des-Neiges' residents are new to Canada and are struggling to get by.

According to Landry, more than 110 languages are spoken in Cote-des-Neiges, with many residents originating from the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

"It doesn't matter who you are," Landry said. "If you are hungry and ask for food, you will get it here."

Besides a low-cost restaurant, Multicaf facilitates a



host of other food services and community activities.

Multicaf's group purchasing program organizes individuals and families into food-buying cooperatives. Almost 250 people take advantage of the service, purchasing groceries in bulk and saving about 30 per cent, Landry said.

"With this program, they empower themselves while saving money and learning about good food choices," he said.

Multicaf also organizes group trips for the elderly and residents with mental health problems. Low-cost excursions to

museums and camps allow those living in isolation to meet others and see new places.

Each summer around 40 Cote-des-Neiges residents bus out to the Bolton area for a four-day rustic retreat.

"It's a cheap way for seniors, people who are lonely or sick, to get out to the country and see the beach, rest, share food and sit by a fire," Landry said.

While Multicaf's food and activities are cheap, providing them isn't



Multicaf's Alain Landry serves up hot meals to nearly 200 hungry diners a day in Cote-des-Neiges.



Concordia Centraide volunteers handed out candies to pedestrians on Halloween. In return they collected money for Centraide. Pictured are Centraide members (left to right) Kathleen Perry, co-chair, Kathleen Carey, Miriam Posner, co-chair, and Walter Chen.

Serving almost 70,000 meals a year comes at a high cost, Landry admits.

Thankfully, he said, Centraide provides Multicaf with a yearly \$145,200 boost. The contribution supports one-third of Multicaf's budget. The money covers the basics: administrative costs, rent, and food.

"We can't afford to do everything," Landry said. "The large sum given by Centraide is essential."

Landry said donations to Centraide connect people to their community.

"Improving quality of life in poor neighborhoods puts people in touch with their human nature," he said.

## Simone de Beauvoir Institute celebrates silver anniversary

BY SCOTT McRAE

Long ago, the building housing the Simone de Beauvoir Institute was a neighbourhood brothel. Some might see it as an inauspicious beginning, but for women's studies principal Lillian Robinson, it's an ideal symbol of the movement.

"It was a place of women's labour, of women's sexual exploitation," she said. "We take over the space and use it for our own purpose to make changes in the world. That's what the Simone de Beauvoir Institute is about."

The Institute, founded in March 1978, is now celebrating 25 years of feminist activity at Concordia. Though the college has been a center of feminist thought, at the time of its founding feminists were still debating whether or not they even wanted to be part of the academy.

"Some wanted to claim a place for feminist intellectual work," said Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy, former director of women's studies at the University of Arizona and invited guest on a recent women's studies panel. However, other feminists worried that institutionalizing their ideas might stifle their intellectual vigour. Kennedy explained that feminists wondered, "Once we're legitimate, are we still going to have a critical edge?"

The Institute itself is named after a woman many consider to have been on the cutting edge of feminist thought and the founder of women's studies. Simone de Beauvoir, author of the landmark book *The Second Sex* and instigator of using an interdisciplinary approach to study the identity of women, served as a role model for and proponent of the college.

Currently, the college offers a major, a minor and a certificate program in women's studies. Eventually, Robinson said, the Institute would like to develop a graduate program, though she acknowledges that this will probably

not happen in the near future.

Having weathered growing pains and a 1997 threat of being shut down, the Institute continues to expand its scope and breadth. For example, two years ago it introduced an internship option, sending students to work at places like La Centrale, a women's art gallery collective, Divers/Cité, an organization dealing with sexuality, various women's shelters, and even a law firm.

Course offerings have also greatly expanded to accommodate many of the emerging concerns in the field. The program, which employs three full-time professors and 13 part-time faculty, currently offers 22 courses, including new courses on post-colonialism and feminism, controversies in feminism, and women

in the Muslim world.

"We have no centralized curriculum because it's a growing field," said Robinson. "In fact, we're not yet a field, we're a field of dreams."

Having built it, the students keep coming. The Institute had 27 program students in its first year; last year they had 137.

Current students had many positive things to say about the college. For Women's Studies major Karine Deschamps, one of the best aspects is the input that students have into the program's shape. Every year, women's studies students meet with the principal to give suggestions for future curricula. "Some of last year's suggestions are on this year's curriculum," she said.

This, said Robinson, is both the greatest success and the biggest challenge of the Institute. "We have students who are so aware of their studies and the contradiction with the real world that they push for new courses. Yet the challenge is to do it right, to make it more than just a service,

to make sure we're aware of the social forces."

This is the spirit which transformed a former house of ill-repute into an important centre of feminist thought. It is the same spirit, Robinson hopes, which will keep the Institute vibrant and relevant for the next 25 years.

Author Victoria Rowe will launch her book *A History of Armenian Women's Writing: 1880-1922* as part of the Institute's twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations. The launch will be at 7 p.m., Nov. 12, at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, 2170 Bishop, Room 101.



Institute Director Lillian Robinson says Women's Studies is an evolving and growing field. New students continue to push for new courses. It's that spirit that keeps the Institute vibrant, Robinson says.

### In the Winner's Circle



Pictured (from left to right) at the presentation were: Jack Lightstone, Provost, Jean Fabi, President, Championnat des Amériques; Eduardo del Balso; Computer Engineering co-op student; Caroline Pereira, MIS co-op student; Bryna Kuhnreich; Marketing co-op student; and Christine Webb, Director, Institute for Co-operative Education.

During the past year, 11 students from Concordia's Institute for Co-operative Education (ICE) planned and organized the "Championnat des Amériques" - a highly successful five-day equestrian event which drew 35,000 visitors to Bromont to raise funds for children's medical research. Last week, the event organizers presented Christine Webb, ICE Director with a cheque for \$25,000 in appreciation of the students' efforts. The money will go towards establishing scholarships for co-op students.



# International students face challenges calling Montreal home

By Angie Gaddy

Maya Chivi arrived at Concordia three years ago without a friend or a home.

Most freshmen deal with pangs of homesickness, but for the international student from Dubai, she had added burdens of government bureaucracy, culture shock and loneliness.

She received her study visa just days before catching her flight from the Middle East to Montreal. She spent a week racking up hotel bills while looking for a cheap apartment. And new friends seemed to slip in and out of her life.

"Canadians love one word: acquaintance. They don't know what it's like to go home and talk to the walls," Chivi said last week.

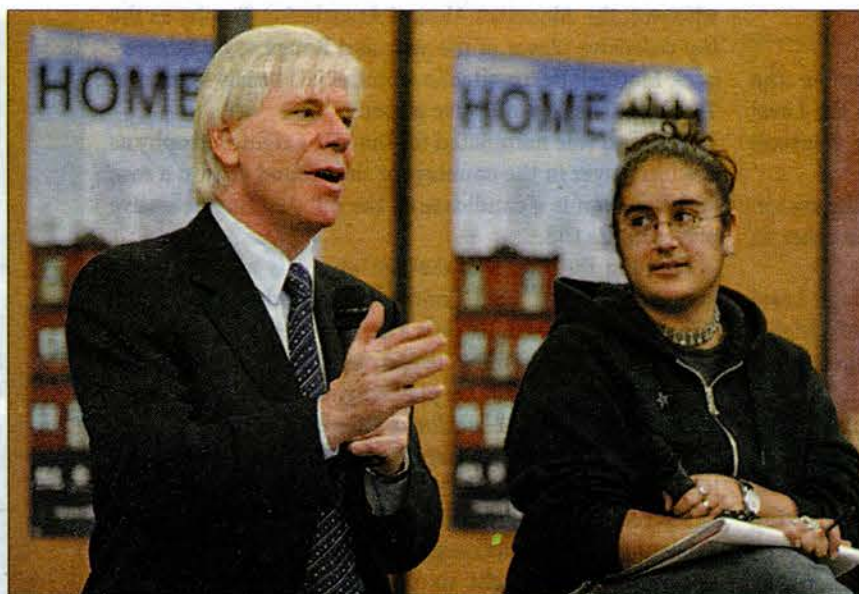
Chivi no longer needs to seek out friends, an apartment or feelings of home. Instead, she wants others to know the obstacles students like her face when calling Montreal home.

She was one of dozens who participated in a forum last week to discuss those challenges. The event, moderated by local CBC anchor Dennis Trudeau, was part of Montreal Matters – a CBC initiative that encourages community dialogue on this year's theme: the home.

Concordia's international student population has skyrocketed in just two years. The number of international students jumped 64 per cent from 1,944 in 2001 to 3,200 students this school year. International students make up anywhere from 7 to 15 percent of the total students in each faculty.

For Concordia's international students, problems range from finding cheap and affordable housing in a city with less than a 1 per-cent vacancy rate to handling immigration issues and finding new friends.

Christina Xydous of the CSU's Housing and Job Bank



CBC anchor Dennis Trudeau moderated Concordia's Montreal Matters event, which discussed the challenges faced by international students. Christina Xydous, right, of the CSU Housing and Job Bank says many worry about affordable housing.

says international students are often unaware of their rental rights and are at the mercy of deceitful landlords.

"They come so shortly before the school year begins," Xydous said. "They tend to be rather uninformed about these things."

Xydous accused the university residences of engaging in the same kind of practices by increasing rents and deposits for refrigerator rentals.

"There are numerous, numerous abuses of clauses," she said at the forum.

Melanie Drew, director of residential life, told Xydous she was surprised to hear of the complaints. She said she was unaware of any legal violations, but asked Xydous

come to her office to talk about the concerns.

Other students said their most pressing need besides affordable housing is finding work.

Gisella Luja, president of Concordia's International Student Association, was able to snag a part-time job with applied human sciences.

Other international students weren't so lucky.

"I've had friends who have had to go home. One is looking for a job now in France," Luja said.

Convolved immigration laws and their timing often require students to be experts at bureaucratise and time management. A single day late in applying to extend a study visa can result in a student being slapped with a \$200 fine, said Isabella Lacelle, director of Concordia's International Students Office.

And post Sept. 11, backlogs are clogging Citizenship and Immigration Canada offices.

"Students are facing very long delays," she said.

For some, the most pressing need is simply fitting in.

American Keven Woo said he would have never thought of battling culture shock in a North American country. However, the 20-year-old computer engineering student from California continues to battle his first pangs of homesickness.

"It's the language. I had never been to French Canada," he said. "My American accent stands out."

Woo is hitting the gym, staying busy and trying to remain positive. "I'm counting the days until Christmas break," he said.

## Expo-Science lights up the imagination

By Scott McRae

The glowing pickle should never be attempted at home. It gets hot, it's full of current, and if the two electrodes touch, the pickle explodes. Glowing pickles were, however, a great draw at the twentieth annual Concordia Science and Technology Exhibition, Expo-Science, held in Pointe Claire last weekend.

The community outreach event drew an estimated 1,600 participants, many having visited in past years. Most were children, parents in tow, awestruck at arcing electricity running up a Jacob's Ladder, amazed by canine skulls and more than a little enamoured of the homemade nitrogen ice cream.

Such wonder is, for co-organizer Cameron Tilson, what makes this event successful. "We bring the university to the community," he said, explaining that he hoped the eager young kids of today would be the bright Concordia students of the future.

Some of these Concordia students were on hand over the weekend. A few, like first year environmental science student Ryan Bassanese, came to scout out future areas of specialization and to get inspired by the available options. Many others, like molecular biology graduate student Damiano Ferraro, came to staff booths.

Ferraro was all smiles as he showed his rapt onlookers different specimens belonging to the arthropod family: a scuttling black and orange Halloween crab, a praying mantis, a docile Asian scorpion, a giant black millipede as thick as a thumb, and a tarantula.

"We're keeping the tarantula in the cage this year," he confided, as last year the normally docile spider began jumping about, scaring children.

Like Ferraro, many of the student volunteers had given their time at previous exhibitions and returned because they so enjoyed giving demonstrations to kids. Co-organ-



Owen Maslon, 5, and sister, Sophie, 7, dip into science at Concordia's Science and Technology Exhibition on Saturday.

izer Cameron Tilson first got involved when, as a geology lab technician, he volunteered to design a presentation for the inaugural Expo Science.

That was in 1984, the year that Dr. Robert Pallen, a former Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry professor, and the Pointe Claire Community centre collaborated to create a presence for the university on the West Island. This year, professors Miriam Posner and Louis Cuccia joined

Tilson in organizing the event.

Pointe Claire is the only community in which the university hosts Expo-Science. Though Tilson said that he would love to see multiple venues, he explained that resources and time are insufficient.

Residents of Pointe Claire had only positive comments about the event. "I think it's well set out," said Lurline Brown, who brought her grandson Liam Cooper-Brown to the fair. "It's made very interesting for children. They can be very stimulated here."

Such was the case for Darian Yee, 5, whose favourites included the millipede, the robot and the "goop," an isothixotropic substance made of cornstarch and water which alternates state between liquid and solid depending on how much agitation it receives.

Children like Yee get excited by the exhibits, said Charlotte Lamontagne, a Graduate Diploma student in the new Environmental Impact Assessment program, because they showcase aspects of the natural world kids might not necessarily see in school. Lamontagne, too, said she feels enthusiastic about the displays, something which keeps her coming back to volunteer.

"Nature is cool," she said, "and I want to share that with people."

## In memoriam

Dr. Robert. H. Pallen (1930 - 2003)

Dr. Pallen, a retired faculty member of the Department of Chemistry, passed away Nov. 3.

He will be deeply missed by his colleagues, students and friends. He will always be remembered for his dedication, generosity, and love of teaching and transmission of knowledge. His desire to foster interest in science and technology in young people led him to institute the annual Expo-Science, a collaboration between Concordia University and the Pointe Claire Cultural Centre, Stewart Hall. This year's event, dedicated to Dr. Pallen, was held Nov. 1 and 2 and marked the 20th anniversary. He also was instrumental in the success of Saturday morning "Fun with Science" classes for children at Stewart Hall, and regularly volunteered as a judge for school science fairs.

Dr. Pallen was well respected by both faculty and staff within the Department. Colleagues appreciated his helpfulness, co-operation, and especially his good humour.

His association with the University spanned more than fifty years. He graduated in Chemistry from Sir George Williams in 1952 and pursued graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario, where he earned his Ph.D.

In 1969 he joined Loyola of Montreal as an Assistant Professor in Chemistry and taught in the Department up until his retirement in 1996. Following retirement, he pursued his interests in music registering as a student in the Faculty of Fine Arts, and was active in the Concordia University Pensioner's Association.

In the course of his academic career with the University, Dr. Pallen held many administrative positions. From 1973-1977, he was Assistant Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science (Loyola), and from 1977-85 Associate Dean of Division III, Faculty of Arts and Science, and from 1985-96 Associate Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife, Anne, and to his family.



# Stingers and Laval set for the clash of the Titans

BY JOHN AUSTEN

It should be quite a showdown Saturday as the Concordia Stingers travel to Ste. Foy to take on the Laval Rouge et Or for the Quebec Intercollegiate Football Conference championship.

The battle has been looming from the start of the season with both teams going 7-1 and each beating the other in league play.

Concordia will not only be playing against a tough Laval team but the Stingers will have to do it in front of a highly partisan crowd of Rouge et Or supporters expected to number 15,000.

"It's going to be tough for them to play in our place," said Sebastien Denon, a Laval student who was in Montreal to scout Concordia's 35-8 semi-final win over the Université de Montréal last Saturday. "I would say it can be a visiting team's nightmare."

The Stingers hope that history repeats itself since they upset the Rouge et Or in the playoffs last season. Laval, which was awarded first place in the league on points differential, had no trouble with the McGill Redmen, winning the other semi-final 47-7 in front of 10,000 fans at their PEPS stadium.

As befitting their stature as the class of the league, Concordia and Laval scooped up the major individual awards this week with Gerry McGrath of the Stingers being named coach of the year.

He was joined by Stingers linebacker Mickey Donovan

who won the Alouettes Alumni Association Trophy as the top defensive player of the year and Rouge et Or quarterback Mathieu Bertrand who won the Jeff Russel Memorial Trophy as the top offensive player.

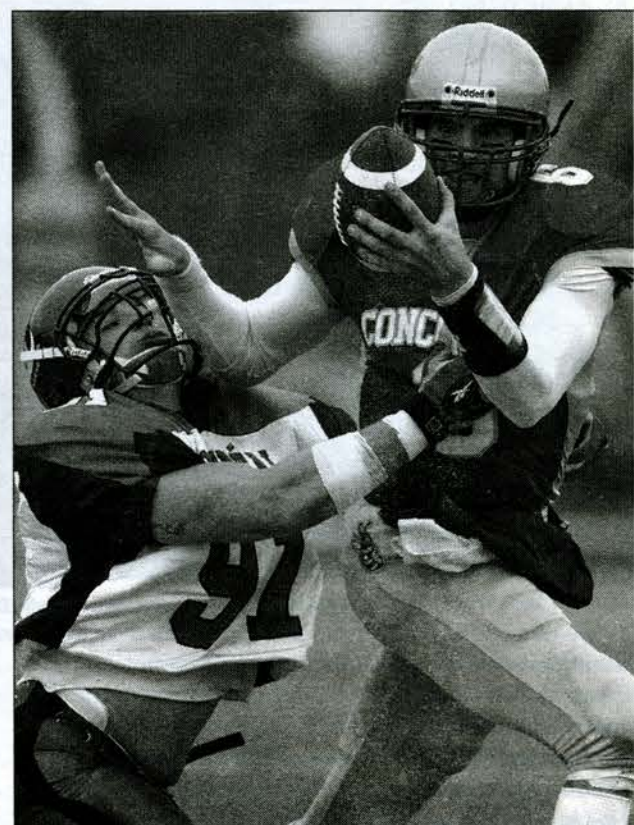
Bertrand was nominated for the Hec Crighton trophy as the top player in the country for the second year in a row, and Donovan is a candidate as the outstanding defensive player in the CIS.

Winning the Coach-of-the-Year award is a "really great honour for Gerry," said Concordia quarterback Jon Bond. "He really deserves it. He puts a lot into preparing us for our games every week. I think he's proved that when you look at our record and the way we played against Laval. Also, he's a great teacher and he really looks after his players."

Against the upstart Carabins, quarterback Bond helped lead his team to victory. He completed 25 of 42 passes for 382 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. Rookie receiver Nick Scissons caught 11 passes for 189 yards, and Carlton O'Brien caught six passes for 86 yards and two touchdowns.

The offence combined for 451 total yards, while the top-ranked Concordia defence was at its stingy best. Montréal could only manage 178 yards of offence in the game. Leading the way on defense were Rudy Hage and Troy Cunningham. Bond was on fire early completing pass after pass before Patrick Donovan ran the ball in for the game's opening touchdown at 3:27 of the first quarter.

The Stingers led 22-0 at halftime and 32-0 mid-way through the third quarter.



QUARTERBACK JON BOND pushes away from a Carabins player to help lead the Stingers to victory against Université de Montréal on Saturday.

## Peace and Conflict event looks at language of emotion

BY JASON GONDZIOLA

As a young girl, Carmella was told a story about her father lying down in front of a British tank during the 1956 war in the Middle East. She and her family had been living on a kibbutz, and her father's actions, as told to her by her mother, a Holocaust survivor, were all he could do to safeguard his family and home.

Amazingly, it worked. The driver of the tank showed mercy, and turned around. Years later, Carmella's son is now himself driving a tank in Israel — for the Israeli army. The parallel is not lost on Carmella.

"I knew which story was in my head, and finally I said to him, 'Don't forget to have mercy in your heart,'" she said.

This and three other stories were given life on the stage of the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall on Sunday, Oct. 26, as part of Concordia's Peace and Conflict Resolution series. The event, titled *Healing the Wounds of History*, was conducted by Armand Volkas, a renowned drama therapist who has worked with Holocaust survivors and children of the Third Reich, among others.

Stephen Snow, co-founder and coordinator of the Graduate Drama Therapy option in the Creative Arts Therapies program, produced the event. He and Volkas had participated in a workshop together, and Snow felt that Volkas' skill in the challenging field of drama therapy could be of benefit to Concordia.

"To me, it was a perfect match of bringing Armand, who has worked with the most challenging situations, to a situation that was very, very filled with rage and pain and sadness," he said. "I knew that he would be able to create a container for that work, and I think he did."

In the days leading up to Sunday's event, Volkas conducted a 16-hour workshop with a group of Israeli and

Palestinian Canadians. Participants were encouraged to be honest with one another and to express their feelings as frankly as possible.

"Doing the workshop I think I did see some growth," said Volkas. "I think there was a lot of mistrust and anger, and I think that it softened over time. I do think that the work of the workshop was translated into the public event; we were able to broadcast this event—what might happen when you have two groups telling their stories."

The result was a dramatic and painful look at the truth of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, told through the universal language of emotion. The four stories, two each from Israeli and Palestinian Canadians, were enacted through the medium of playback theatre by a five-member dramatic troupe who would listen to the stories, as told by audience members and members of the two-day workshop, and then perform a dramatic re-enactment of the story, backed by improvised music.

It was very effective. Tears were shed, both on stage and in the audience as the feelings of rage, loss, and a tragic sense of missed opportunity were given form. The event ended on a positive note, with Volkas expressing his hope for peace in our lifetime.

Volkas said that the event served to de-politicize the reality of a conflict that is almost always discussed in political terms, and allowed both the performers and the audience to witness the emotional reality beneath.

"Enactments transform [the stories]," said Volkas. "They become universal, they become archetypal, they become human, and not just related to the politics."

Although Snow regrets that there wasn't a stronger student turnout, especially among Israeli and Palestinian students, he feels the show had a positive effect on Montreal's community.

### More Peace and Conflict events

Here are some of the upcoming events as part of the Peace and Conflict Resolution Academic Series. For more information, log on to <http://news.concordia.ca>

The 9th International Karl Polanyi Conference, titled "Coexistence" will be held Nov. 12 to 16.

Dr. Ursula Franklin speaks at 5 p.m. on Nov. 12 in Room H-110. Her lecture is called "Coexistence and Technology: Society Between Bitsphere and Biosphere."

A panel, titled "Building a New Coexistence: The Next Great Transformation" will be held at 5 p.m. in Room H-767 on Nov. 13.

On Nov. 14, Dr. Mihaly Simai will give a lecture called "Co-Existence or Confrontation? Civilizations, Civil Societies and the Future of Global Security and Governance" at 6 p.m. in Room H-767.

As part of the Moderators and Peacemakers Account: Love Lost and Lessons Learned, the next panel, "Building Bridges on Sand: Is Inter-Religious Dialogue Realistic?" will be held on Nov. 13 in Room H-937 with Rabbi Leigh Lerner and Professor Mahmoud Ayoub.

The Women's Studies Program and the Simone de Beauvoir Institute will present a lecture by Dr. Jaleh Shaditalab, founding member of Tehran University's Centre for Research on Women on Nov. 23. Shaditalab will present her work as part of the public forum. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Room H-110.

## Continued: Just presenting facts isn't knowledge

Continued from page 1

doesn't allow you to find out what the child's knowledge is and what the child understands about that particular issue."

Jacobs offered two contrasting examples of instruction from each school of thought. Traditional teaching would present children with a turkey stencil for Thanksgiving, said Jacobs, and ask the children to colour it in.

Constructivist teaching, on the other hand, would encourage the children to talk about how the turkey feels, and provoke them to think those things through.

Thus, by encouraging children to think outside the picture, teachers themselves move beyond the boundaries of traditional instruction.

The result is a program where the children, and the teachers, learn something genuinely new.

# 14<sup>th</sup>

ANNUAL

## CONCORDIA

BOOK SALE

**Concordia University Bookstore**

Literally thousands of books priced from \$1.99 upwards will go on sale shortly at the Concordia Bookstore's Fourteenth Annual Book Sale. Don't miss this marvelous opportunity to stock up on books for holiday gifts to your children, family or friends. Outstanding are the Penguin "hurts" which cover the spectrum from Classics to Mysteries as well as a wide range of fiction for all age groups.

**Dates:**  
Nov. 12  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Nov. 13  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**Place:**  
Hall Bldg.  
(Mezzanine Level)

<http://www.concordia.ca/bookstore>



# On the ball Team heads to championships

BY JOHN AUSTEN

For the first time since 1998, the Concordia men's soccer team will take part in the CIS National Championships beginning today at l'Université de Montréal. The Stingers earned the right by upending Trois-Rivières 2-1 in the Conference semifinal match-up last Friday. Both Concordia and the host U de M Carabins will represent Quebec at the Nationals.

The Stingers knew they had at least another week left in the season when they took on No. 4 ranked Carabins in the Conference Championship last Sunday afternoon. A Stinger giveaway in the eighth minute led to the only goal of the game as the Carabins' Julien de la Riera scored on a breakaway giving his squad the 1-0 win and the Quebec university title.

"Our guys knew we had more soccer to play after this championship game, but I really don't think we were looking ahead. That's not why we lost," veteran Stinger coach Vladimir Pavlicik said after the match. "You have to remember we were the underdogs here. The Carabins have been the class of the league all year and are the No. 4 ranked team in the country."

The game was played in chilly three-degree temperatures, but it could have been much worse.

"I remember coming here for a football game here

last year in October and it was snowing, windy and like minus 10," said Stephen Briere, 33, who was at the game cheering on the Stingers. "It wasn't that windy out there today, so it wasn't too bad. Still it's tough to come back in conditions like this when you get down a goal early."

The Carabins took control of the ball early in the first half but Concordia's strong defensive play limited the number of offensive chances.

Pavlicik says that the Carabins were quicker to the ball and took advantage of a miscue.

"One defensive mistake and we're down 1-0 early," said Pavlicik. "It's tough to come back against a team like that because they're quick and have very skilled players."

The Stingers hadn't lost a game since Oct. 10 and squeaked into the playoffs by beating McGill 1-0 on Oct. 26 in a driving rainstorm. The Stingers won four and tied two of their last six games to end the regular season at seven wins, four losses and three ties.

"I'm very proud of my boys and the character they have shown all year," said Pavlicik. "And the good news is we have more soccer to play."

The Stingers open play today (4 p.m., Stade CEP-SUM) against the Western winner. The National championships wrap up on Saturday afternoon.

## In brief

### Four teams shortlisted for Quartier Concordia design competition

Four multidisciplinary teams have been shortlisted for the Quartier Concordia urban design competition - a planning project that aims to better define the urban environment encompassing the Sir George Williams Campus in downtown Montreal.

The teams are aA/Nomade/DGLA Consortium; Groupe Cardinal Hardy; Daoust Lestage Inc. and Schème Inc./Atelier Urban Soland Inc./Louis-Paul Lemieux architecte Consortium.

Michael Di Grappa, Vice-Rector Services, was extremely pleased with the professional scope of the candidates. "Although we were considering to limit the competition to three finalists, it was clear by the strength and quality of the candidates that we should add a fourth. On behalf of the members of the Pre-Selection Committee, I can confidently say that we are greatly looking forward to their submissions," he said.

The teams have until Nov. 28 to submit their proposals. The jury will select a winner in early December. The first phase of implementation of Quartier Concordia is expected to begin by Summer 2004.

### University honours Paris alumni

Concordia alumni recently celebrated an evening in Paris.

The event, held last week and organized by Concordia University officials, aimed to forge stronger

ties between the university and its Paris alumni.

Held at the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris, the event hosted two lecturers, who spoke about Mediterranean artifacts. The lectures were in collaboration with the Musée du Louvre and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Clarence Epstein, director of special projects in Concordia's Office of the Rector, spoke about the history of the Diniacopoulos family and its collection of ancient Mediterranean artifacts.

Violaine Jeammet, curator of the Louvre's Greek, Etruscan and Roman Antiquities department, spoke about the exhibition "Tanagra: Myth and Archaeology," which is showing at the Louvre until Jan. 5.

### Lowy award to highlight exhibition

Rector Frederick Lowy will receive the King-Gandhi-Ikeda award for his work in bioethics and his commitment to peace and conflict resolution at Concordia. The presentation will be made at the inauguration of an exhibition called *King-Gandhi-Ikeda: A legacy of Building Peace* in the J.W. McConnell Building on Monday, Nov. 10.

Dr. Monique Mujawamariya will also receive the award for her effort in re-establishing peace in Rwanda and her work with African youth in Montreal. The exhibition in the Atrium runs for two weeks.

It has had showings in New Zealand, the United States, Jordan, Germany and other Canadian cities.

## Stingers Roundup

Overall it was a pretty good weekend for Stinger sports teams. The men's basketball team is in Lethbridge, Alta., for a tournament and won two of its first three games. Wins came over host Lethbridge (78-66) and Simon Fraser (73-63), while Concordia's only loss came at the hands of Northern Montana (81-74). The Lady cagers beat Ryerson 73-60 in a pre-season contest.



The men's soccer team upset Trois-Rivières 2-1 last Friday in the Conference semifinal earning them the right to battle l'Université de Montréal for the Championship. The Stingers lost that one 1-0 on Sunday afternoon, but will still take part in the CIS National Championships this weekend at U de M.

The men's hockey team battled Trois-Rivières to a 3-3 tie last Friday before being trounced 9-1 by the Gee-Gees in Ottawa on Sunday. The women's hockey team was impressive in shutting out McGill 3-0 last Friday night.

The football team beat up on the U de M Carabins 35-8 and now head to Ste. Foy to take on the Laval Rouge et Or in the Conference Championship on Saturday.

The men's rugby team gave a fine effort but ended up on the losing end of a 24-14 score with the Bishop's Gaitsers in the QSSF semifinal last Sunday.

The Stingers finished the regular season in third place with a 4-3-1 record, while the second-place Gaitsers rolled up a 5-2-1 mark. The teams had met twice previously this season. The Stingers tied the first game 25-25 and lost the second game 21-0. Bishop's now takes on the undefeated McGill Redmen in the conference championship.

### Big Mat Attack!

Three Concordia wrestlers finished first in their weight categories to help their team to a second-place finish at the annual Concordia Invitational Wrestling Tournament held last month.

Veteran wrestler Tony Ronci finished first in the 68 kg weight class, Marc Roache won the 90 kg category and newcomer David Zilberman was the best wrestler in the 100 kg ranking. Tyler Marghetis, now in his second year with Concordia, finished third in the 72 kg division.

Concordia did not have a wrestler in the women's competitions, but Martine Dugrenier, who joins the team in January, participated and won two weight classes of 67 kg and 72 kg. Dugrenier won a gold medal at the CIS championship last February.

More than 100 wrestlers competed in the popular annual tournament, which attracted more than 20 universities and wrestling clubs from across Canada and the U.S.

### ConU has rugby All-stars

Four members of the Concordia Stingers women's rugby team were named to the QSSF all-star team for the 2003 season. Scrum half Sommer Christie, prop Robin Hemming, back row Lianne Lawton and fullback Julie Bertrand earned the honours.

Christie is a five-time QSSF all-star. She was named a CIS All-Canadian in 2001 and 2002. She is also a two-time QSSF Female Athlete of the Week in 2003. The team captain scored 16 tries and seven converts for 94 points in seven games this season.

The Stingers finished with a 5-1 record in the regular season. They were defeated 30-0 by the McGill Martlets in the QSSF last Sunday.

By John Austen

### Special Two-Week French Language Courses December 2003

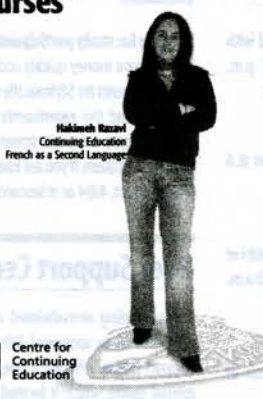
Conversation (six levels).....\$235  
Registration Fee (non-refundable).....\$15

Days: Monday to Friday  
Time: 09:00 to 13:00 (40 hours)  
Dates: December 1 to December 12

Mail-in/Fax-in/In-Person Registration: from now, until November 28, 2003  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 09:00 to 16:30

REGISTER NOW - SPACE IS LIMITED

Further information available at:  
1600 St. Catherine St. West, No. 117  
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Fax: (514) 848-2806  
Internet: www.concordia.ca/conted  
E-mail: celi@alcor.concordia.ca



The Loyola Alumni Association invites you to a celebration of the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex

### Loyola Club Dinner

Guest of Honour Martin Singer  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science

Dean Singer will speak about his vision for the Loyola campus as an integral and substantive part of this university's academic and social mission in Quebec and Canada.

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2003, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner  
Richard J. Renaud Science Complex Atrium  
Loyola Campus  
7141 Sherbrooke St. W.  
\$85 per person, business attire  
(limited number of tickets available)

Purchase tickets by contacting Office of University Advancement & Alumni Relations 848-2424 ext. 4856  
RSVP by Thursday, Nov. 6

Tours of the Science Complex will be given during cocktail hour

2003 Spry Memorial Lecture

### Cees J. Hamelink

University of Amsterdam, Holland



"The Right to Communicate  
in Theory and Practice:  
A Test for the World Summit  
on the Information Society"

Thursday, Nov. 13, 2003 5 p.m.  
Room M-415, Pavillon principal  
Université de Montréal,  
2900 Édouard-Montpetit Blvd.  
(Metro Université de Montréal)  
Lecture in English

Information:  
Yasmine El Jamaï: (514) 343-6111 ext. 5419 (yjamaï@free.fr)  
Professor Marc Raboy: (514) 343-5685 (raboy@com.umontreal.ca)  
Web Site: http://www.fas.umontreal.ca/com/spry

### Free Admission

This lecture is organized with the assistance of the Joint Doctorate Program in Communications of Université de Montréal, Concordia University and UQAM.



# the backpage

november 6 - november 23

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Internal Relations Department (BC-120) in writing no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, the week prior to the Thursday publication. Back Page submissions are also accepted by fax (848-2814) and e-mail (ctr@alcor.concordia.ca). For more information, please contact Angie Gaddy at 848-2424 ext. 4579.

## Art

### Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Closed Sundays. 1400 de Maisonneuve W. LB-165 Free admission. Info: 848-2424 ext. 4750. [www.ellengallery.com](http://www.ellengallery.com). Free admission.

Solo: Pierre Dorion Runs from Nov. 12 to Dec. 20.

### VAV Gallery

Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 1395 René-Lévesque Blvd W. For more information, call 848-2424 ext. 7388.

Sasson Khazzam: *Displacements*, a visual chronicle of a family of Iraqi Jews. Run from Nov. 10 to 15.

Vernissage, Nov. 11, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## Centre for Teaching & Learning Services

Faculty development workshop series offered

### Wednesday, November 19

Infusing Critical Thinking into Instruction from 9:30 a.m. to noon in H-771, SGW Campus. Facilitator: Olivia Rovinescu, CTLS. Research tells us that only those who "think through" the content of their subject matter truly learn it. Only when the content takes root in the thinking of students, does it transform the way they think. This interactive session will provide a framework for constructing effective critical thinking lessons.

## Concert Hall

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke W. Box office: Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tel. 848-2424 ext. 4848. Visit <http://oscar.concordia.ca>.

### Today

*Eucue Series* at 5 and 8 p.m. Selections from Canada, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, UK and the USA. To bring together this wide assortment of countries, styles, and aesthetics, composers were each challenged to suggest studio-based-electroacoustics that were close to themselves geographically, aesthetically and "from their own generation." Free admission. Also on Nov. 7 at 5 and 8 p.m.

### Saturday, Nov. 8

*Be Glorified Gospel Explosion* at 7 p.m. With the youth of the Church of God of prophecy (Quebec & Ottawa). Featuring the Ministerial Choir, La Chorale de la Ophélie and many more. For more information and reservations, call (514) 482-2724. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for children 12 and under.

### Thursday, Nov. 13

Concordia University Department of Music Presents *Classical Works* at 8 p.m. Presented by students from the graduate diploma in the advanced music performance program. Tickets at the door only, \$5 general admission, free for students with ID.

### Thursday, Nov. 20

Concordia University Department of Music Presents *Jazz Guitar Ensembles* at 8 p.m. Directed by Michael Berard, students will perform jazz standards arranged by Shannon Thompson, Andrew Homzy and others. Tickets at the door only, \$5 general admission, free for students with ID.

### Friday, Nov. 21

Concordia University Department of Music Presents *Jazz Faculty Ensembles* at 8 p.m. A variety of ensembles featuring prominent faculty members including Charles Ellison, Wray Downes, Wali Muhammad, Andrew Homzy, Jeri Brown and many more. Tickets available on the Admission network and at the box office: \$15 general admission, \$10 for Concordia staff, \$5 for non-Concordia students, free for Concordia students with ID (service charges applicable).

## CPR Courses

Offered through the Concordia University Environmental Health and Safety Office. Courses offered monthly in 2003 and 2004. For more information and prices call 848-2424 ext. 4355 and ask for Donna Fasciano. All courses are recognized by the Quebec Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Thursday, Nov. 6, (9 a.m. to noon): Heartsaver; Saturday, Nov. 8: BCLS; Sunday, Nov. 16: BCLS Re-certification; Tuesday, Nov. 18 (1 to 5 p.m.): Heartsaver; Saturday, Nov. 22: Baby Heartsaver; Thursday, Nov. 27 (9 a.m. to noon): Heartsaver

## EAP

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, confidential counselling and information service available to all employees eligible for health benefits at Concordia, including their immediate family, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Log onto the EAP Web site at <http://eap.concordia.ca> for helpful information about counselling services, lunch seminars, newsletters and lots more. 1-800-387-4765 (Eng.) 1-800-361-566 (Fr.)

### EAP Lunch Seminar

"Building Healthy Relationships." Learn ways to determine if your relationships contribute to your overall health and well-being. Tuesday, Nov. 18, noon to 1:15 p.m. Loyola, AD-308. Register by phone (3667), e-mail (eap@alcor) or on-line (<http://eap.concordia.ca>)

## Lectures

### Today

Timothy Fuller, professor of political science at Colorado College presents "The Permanent Character of Liberal Learning and the Crisis of Civilization" at 7:30 p.m. in Room H-110. For more information call 848-2424 ext. 2565

### Today

The Centre for Canadian Irish Studies presents a lecture by Angus Mitchell of Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick entitled "Imperial resource wars and popular agitation for an ethical foreign policy in the Atlantic World 1884-1913" at 8:30 p.m. in Room H-439. Free admission. For more information, call 848-8711.

### Today

The Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering presents Professor John W.M. Bush from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Department of Mathematics at 11:30 a.m. in the de Seve Cinema, LB-123. The presentation is entitled "Hydrodynamics of Insects Walking on Water."

### Today

The Concordia University Community Lecture Series on HIV/AIDS presents "Et si ça peut faire un petit peu moins mal: le pouvoir des UDI dans la réduction des risques" presented by Darlene Palmer, frontline intervention worker, CACTUS Montreal. Open to the public, and no registration is necessary. Lecture will be in French. Will be held at 6 p.m. in Room H-110. For more information, call 848-2424 Ext. 7998 or visit <http://alcor.concordia.ca/~hiv/aids>.

### Friday, Nov. 7

McGill public lecture by Dr. Henry A. Giroux, Waterbury Chair Professor in Secondary Education at Pennsylvania State University speaks on "Higher Education, Youth and the Crisis of Intellectuals" at 5 p.m., Moot Court at the Faculty of Law, 3644 Peel. For more information call 398-6008. Free.

### Friday, Nov. 7

Video presentation by J. Krishnamurti "Living without sorrow," a conversation with Dr. Allan Anderson at 8:30 p.m. in Room H-420. For more information, call (514) 937-8869.

### Thursday, Nov. 13

The Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance and Concordia's Cognitive Science Research Group present Dr. Joseph Tzelgov of the Dept. of Behavioral Sciences, Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheva, Israel. Tzelgov's lecture is titled "On the processing of integers as natural numbers." Held at 4 p.m. in Room SP-157 at the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex.

### Friday, Nov. 14

Video presentation by J. Krishnamurti "The ending of sorrow, brings love and compassion" at 8:30 p.m. in Room H-420. For more information, call (514) 937-8869.

### Friday, Nov. 14

Rym Seferdjele will speak on Women and the Algerian War as part of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute Research Seminars held in the Institute lounge from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

### Friday, Nov. 28

Monique Lanoix will speak on Dependency and Justice as part of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute Research Seminars held in the Institute lounge from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

## Meetings & Events

### Today

Peace and Conflict Resolution Academic Series: *Pluralism, Conflict and Resolution*, a public lecture by John Kekes. From 6 to 8 p.m. Location to be announced.

### Today

Book launch of *Lola by Night* by Norman Ravvin. Intrigued by the mystery surrounding her father's sudden death, romance writer Lola Benveniste discovers he led a secret life in the 1950s. Abandoning her writing career, trading his steps from Spain to Vancouver to New York, she meets people from his past that profoundly affects her life. An offbeat wry novel. Paragraphe Bookstore, 2220 McGill College Ave. 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 487-8779.

### Today through Sunday, Nov. 9

The Concordia ski team is holding its annual ski sale. The sale began Nov. 3 and is held at the Hive at Loyola, located directly above the cafeteria. Open from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Many new and used products will be available at discounted prices between 25% and 60% off of regular price. Skiing and snowboarding equipment and clothing and accessories for people of all ages and skill levels. People are also welcome to bring in used goods to sell. For more info e-mail [concordiaskiteam@hotmail.com](mailto:concordiaskiteam@hotmail.com).

### Wednesday, November 12 - Sunday, November 16

Ninth International Karl Polanyi Conference Sponsored by the Peace and Conflict Resolution Series. For more information, contact 848-2424 ext. 8707 or [polanyi@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:polanyi@vax2.concordia.ca).

### Wednesday, November 12

Ursula Franklin, Professor Emerita, Senior Fellow of Massey College, University of Toronto: "Co-existence and Technology: Society Between Bitsphere and Biosphere." From 5 to 7 p.m. in Room H-110.

### Thursday, November 13

Panel discussion "Building a New Co-existence: The Next Great Transformation." Speakers: Duncan Cameron, University of Ottawa; Eyup Ozveren, Technical University, Ankara, Turkey; James Putzel, London School of Economics. From 5 to 7 p.m. in Room H-767 with video link to H-763.

### Friday, November 14

Mihaly Simai, Budapest University of Economics, "Co-existence or Confrontation? Civilizations, Civil Societies and the Future of Global Security and Governance." From 6 to 8 p.m. in Room H-767, with a video link to H-763.

### 6th Annual Holocaust Education Series

#### Today

Film: *Sugihara: Conspiracy of Kindness*. A Q&A period with producer Diane Estelle Vicari follows the film. 7 p.m. McGill University Thompson House, 3650 McTavish St.

### Friday, Nov. 7

Survivor Testimony, 5 p.m. Sabbath Service and dinner at 6 p.m. Hillel Montreal, 3460 Stanley St. Charge \$8

### Sunday, Nov. 9

Film: *Sugihara: Conspiracy of Kindness*. Former chief Rabbi of Japan Martin Tokayer will speak before the film at 10 a.m. Shaare Zion Congregation, 5575 Cote St. Luc.

### Sunday, Nov. 9

Survivor Testimony at 10:30 a.m. Unitarian Church of Montreal, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd W.

Film: *Les enfants du Chabannes*. Discussion with a Holocaust survivor will follow at 2:30 p.m. Maison de la culture Notre-Dame-de-Grace, 3755 rue Botrel.

### Monday, Nov. 10

Closing Event: Kristallnacht Commemoration at 7:30 p.m. A special service and candle-lighting ceremony at the Gelber Conference Centre, 1 Carr Cummings Square.

### Saturday, Nov. 22

Concordia University Bowliathon for Scholarships. The Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University hopes to once again attract record participation and pledges to the Annual Concordia Bowliathon, whose 11th edition takes place Nov. 22. Since 1989, the bowliathon has raised funds for 62 scholarships and bursaries for Concordia students. Each bowler is asked to raise \$25 (or more) in pledges. Great door prizes and fun for all! (Keep your eyes open for Youppil!) Teams of five or individual bowlers are welcome. Laurentian Lanes, 5250 Paré at Decarie, 12:30 p.m. For registration forms or more information, contact Kate Meadowcroft at the Office of University Advancement & Alumni Relations, (514) 848-2424 ext. 3881.

## Notices

### Arab theatre group

The Arab Theatre Group is an organization committed to artistic representation of Arabic culture, history and language with an emphasis on theatrical plays. We are an active group having produced two plays in the past year. We are looking for a writer who is capable of providing an English language script that centers on contemporary Arab social/political issues. If you are interested please contact Bassel Akache at [bassel@arabtheatregroup.com](mailto:bassel@arabtheatregroup.com).

### Support for field research in the Canadian North

Are you a graduate student or senior undergraduate student interested in fieldwork or research in the Canadian North? The Northern Scientific Training Program provides financial assistance to cover transportation and living costs (approximately \$3,000). Closing date for applications is Nov. 7. Please contact Dr. Monica Mulrennan, chair of Northern Studies, Dept. of Geography at 848-2424 ext. 2055 or at [monica@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:monica@vax2.concordia.ca).

### Cocaine research

McGill University's Dept. of Psychiatry researchers are conducting a study on the role of brain chemicals in cocaine use. Seeking men, age 18-40, who have used cocaine during the past year. The study involves four 24-hour hospital stays, an interview, the ingestion of protein drinks, and the administration of cocaine. Participants will be compensated for their time. The principal investigator is Dr. Leyton. If interested, please e-mail [mcgillresearch@hotmail.com](mailto:mcgillresearch@hotmail.com).

### Concordia Students For Literacy

Share your Knowledge! Volunteer as a tutor for basic literacy for adults and children. For more information contact us at 848-2424 ext. 7454 or [stu4lit@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:stu4lit@alcor.concordia.ca) or come by and see us at SC03-5.

### Yoga of Breath course

A combination of powerful breathing techniques, meditation and yoga to reduce stress, increase energy, relax the body & mind, improve health & wellness, increase concentration and productivity for school & work, enhance interpersonal relationships, and much more! Learn useful and practical techniques and tools to deal with life stressors. Sponsored by Art of Living Club at Concordia. Offered from Oct. 10 to Oct. 15. Held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Wed, Th & Fri. and 1 to 6 p.m. Sat & Sun. For information contact Shan at 489-3685 or [yogishan@sympatico.ca](mailto:yogishan@sympatico.ca).

### Looking for study participants

Sisters! Want to learn more about your relationship with your sister? A new study is looking for women, teens and girls who would like to be interviewed about their relationship with their sister. Please contact Vikki Stark, M.S.W., (514) 937-6116 ext. 1, [vstark@videotron.ca](mailto:vstark@videotron.ca)

### Mature Student Mentor Program

The Mature Student Mentor Program is currently looking for mature students who are interested in sharing their experience, lending support and providing a "connection" with the University for new mature students. Please contact Nelly at 848-2424 ext. 3890 or Brigeen at ext. 3895 for more information.

### Looking for study participants

Want to earn money quickly and easily? Take part in ongoing experiments for \$8/hour. We are studying cognition and language and the experiments involve reading words or sentences on a computer screen and making simple judgments about them. If you are interested, please contact us at 848-2424 ext. 4084 or at [leonardo@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:leonardo@vax2.concordia.ca).

## Peer Support Centre

Are you feeling overwhelmed with papers or exams and need to talk to someone? Why not drop in at the Peer Support Centre? We are a free, confidential listening and referral centre, which is located in the basement of 2090 Mackay St. Room 03. We are open Monday to Thursday 11

a.m. to 5 p.m., or call 848-2424 ext. 2859. Or you can drop by the Loyola Campus in AD 130 on Thursdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Unclassified

### Apartment for rent

A luxurious apartment right next to Concordia building. 1 large bedroom & share kitchen, living room and washroom with one other. Furnished or unfurnished. Rent daily, weekly or monthly. No contract. Available from Dec. 2003. E-mail [Hello\\_lucy@hotmail.com](mailto:Hello_lucy@hotmail.com) or call Lucy at (450) 923-4241.

### Apartment for rent

NDG. Ideal for visiting scholar; perfectly situated by Villa Maria metro, on beautiful, quiet street. Bright, renovated 7 1/2, a few steps from Monkland Village. \$1680, immediate occupancy. Call Charles 846-4741.

### Apartment for Sublet

Large, very sunny 3 1/2 available for sublet Dec. 10, 2003. Downtown location near Metro and universities. Quite street. Full lease available July 1, 2004. Fridges, stove, and heat included, laundry in building. \$730/month. Call (514) 932-7598

### Apartment for sublet

Comfortable furnished centrally located 5-room apartment with 1 bdrm. Available November to March. Dates flexible. Non-smoking. \$650. References. Call (514) 939-9960.

### Room for rent

One block from Loyola Campus on West Broadway. Shared upper duplex, fully furnished and equipped, single occupancy, available now \$400. Call Ally at 485-1552.

### Room for rent in LaSalle

Sunny bedroom in spacious 51/2 in quiet neighbourhood. Private bath, access to big finished basement. \$325/month with cable, access to washer & dryer. Plenty of storage space and close to all amenities. Ideal for quiet student or visiting faculty. I'm a female graduate student with two cats. Please call Helen at 595-3655.

### Room for rent in LaSalle

Sunny bedroom in spacious 4 1/2 condo. Garden, 2 balconies, quiet neighbourhood. Close to all amenities, metro Angrignon. Ideal for quiet female student or visiting faculty. No pets. Please call 363-9999. If not available, please leave a message.

### House for rent

Cozy cottage in TMR, nice residential area. 3 bdrms, finished basement, wall-to-wall carpeting, appliances, parking, large private garden. Excellent schools & recreation; safe, quiet streets. Good access to downtown, universities. \$1,650/month unheated, possibly furnished. Available now for one year or more, faculty or staff only. Please contact Chris at 738-7055.

### House sitting

Lady recently arrived from France seeks "house sitting" arrangement. Meticulous, trustworthy, with Montreal references. Will care for pets and plants as well as house/apt. Call (514) 274 6729.

### For sale

SONY CD Walkman player. Funky orange color. Barely used. Original headphones. Guarantee included. Asking \$120. Call 948-0247

### For sale

New Electric BBQ \$40, Single folding bed \$30, White kitchen cabinet \$40, New Hockey skates \$45. Call after 6 p.m. 367-4190 or 363-9999

### Driveway parking

Near Loyola \$50 a month. Call Carol at 481-9461.

### English tutoring

Concordia graduate is offering high quality tutoring in English as a second language, and editing of university essays. Please contact: [creepyscorpion@yahoo.com](mailto:creepyscorpion@yahoo.com) or (514) 290-2103.

### Native English teacher wanted

Would you like travelling & money? This is a good chance. We need a native english teacher for kids next summer in China. For more information, please email: [imbluesky-school@yahoo.com](mailto:imbluesky-school@yahoo.com).

### Seminar presentation preparation

Concordia English grad can assist students in all disciplines to prepare and deliver quality presentations. Call Sam at (514) 992-0013

### Quickspeak

Want to improve your conversational English quickly? One-on-one conversation will do it! Call Buster at (514) 992-0013

### Concordia university writing test help

Writing instructor with PhD can help prepare you for the CUWT. All Concordia students must take this test within their first 30 credits. We can prepare you. Call (514) 992-0013.

### English tutor for essays

Need help with researching, organizing and editing your university essays? Don't delay, call today. (514) 992-0013.